



# MONTEREY NEWS

July 2003

VOLUME XXXIII · Number 7



## The Town

The first three weeks of June in Monterey were, from a meteorological standpoint, uncommonly wet and cold. Oddly enough, the only sunny hours coincided perfectly with the Monday morning Select Board meetings in the Town Hall. Some viewed this remarkable conjunction as a sign our town government must be doing something right. The Select Board received many visitors during its June meetings, spent about three hours in executive session downstairs, and con-

ducted a great deal of business as usual. One meeting ended right about noon, one ran until well after 1:00 p.m. The first meeting in June included a walk in the woods on a 10-acre parcel of land owned by the Town, located behind the Monterey Firehouse Pavilion. Present for this inspection were Jon Sylbert and Peter Brown of the Select Board, Operations Director Maynard Forbes, Fire Chief Ray Tryon, and the Town Reporter. All agreed this was a splendid parcel of land, full of promise for various purposes, including its current use. (A catbird nest with eggs was discovered by the delegation.)

## Downtown Parking Is Tight

Parking in Monterey will be especially tricky this summer as construction of the Town Hall addition begins in July. The workers, from Cardan Construction Company of Pittsfield, have prepped the site, which was projected to be "fenced, noisy, messy, tidy, and locked." During construction, which will last about five months, many parking spaces will be unavailable for various reasons. Parking for the popular ballfield and playground, as well as for the Town Hall, will have to be found elsewhere in town. The Select Board considered constructing a parking



Tom Rosenthal

*Summer residents return*



lot in the 10-acre parcel mentioned above, and Operations Director Maynard Forbes worked up a budget of \$16,000 for the project.

Some citizens came to a Select Board meeting and raised objections to the proposed parking lot behind the Pavilion. The board reassured them that this was only an idea under consideration. Town Accountant Barbara Gauthier expressed doubts as to where the money could be found at this point. Several people felt it was too long a walk from the proposed parking lot to the ballfield and that the townspeople, visitors, and athletes who use the park for recreation would be unlikely to want to make that hike. It was felt that these people would find some way to continue to park in the downtown area instead and that the parking lot would not be used.

### **Lake Garfield Boat Access**

Martin Cherneff, speaking for the Lake Garfield Public Boat Access Committee, asked the Select Board to open the public boat ramp at the beach every day until noon throughout the summer. Select Board Chair Peter Brown replied that there will be no boat launching at the Town Beach during the swimming season but that the board is researching deeds to potential boat launching sites in other locations on the lake.

### **Road Salt Contamination**

Leona Chamberlin of 35 River Road visited the Select Board to discuss further the contamination of her well by the Highway Department's use of road salt (as reported in the June 2003 *Monterey News*). The Town had offered to help out in various ways, short of providing a new water source for the household, and had sent Ms. Chamberlin to look into the idea of filtration of her water. She reported that M. T. Cavanaugh, the local (Great Barrington) plumbing company, had advised against this, recommending instead that a deep

well, six inches in diameter be drilled. Besides being unable to drink her well water, Ms. Chamberlin is concerned that her newly installed furnace will probably be wrecked by the salty water. The board encouraged Chamberlin to look for public funding to help solve her problem.

### **Park Commission**

Although the Select Board appointed two new members to the Park Commission, as directed by voters in the May town meeting, they discovered thanks to Leroy Thorpe, Chair of the Park Commission, that proper procedure had not been followed in this matter. It was necessary to post the vacancies (which were actually an expansion of the commission) and then to have the current Park Commissioners and the Select Board, together, approve the appointments. Chandler Crawford and Denise Andrus, the new appointees of four weeks, were present for this approval procedure June 23 and accepted their appointments, again. The Select Board and the Park Commission agreed that there is more and more work to be done by this group and that managing the beach alone is a full-time job.

### **The Beach, Parking Again**

Last year at LakeFest an overflow parking area was created across from the beach, consisting of a flat, mowed place. The Highway Department has made it ready for this summer's busy season of beach use, but many people worry that

crossing the road at this point is hazardous, especially since visibility is poor as people emerge from behind parked cars, and many of these people are children and not very tall. To help solve this problem, the Select Board discussed with Police Chief Gareth Backhaus the feasibility of permitting only compact and subcompact cars (not as tall as SUV's and pickups) to park on the beach side of the road. They also considered a painted pedestrian crosswalk and large construction-type orange traffic barrels at either end of the beach area as a warning to through traffic. The smaller cones now in use have not been visible to cars backing out and some have been dragged quite a distance down the road. The Select Board has asked for a "Yield to Pedestrians" sign for the crosswalk.

Beach-goers will be happy to hear that the Park Commission has hired Kelly, Beth, and Lindsay again this year as lifeguards. They are on duty from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., as they were last year. At this time we do not have a swimming instructor, but anyone wishing information about swimming lessons should call Jim Edelman of the Park Commission. Information about the lessons will be posted as soon as possible.

### **Riverfront Damage Mitigation**

The new Town Hall addition will "remove" from its function in the world a certain amount of riverfront land along the Konkapot. Conservation Commission

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Chair Chris Blair explained to the Select Board that the commission has approved this project because the damaged land, or damaged function of the land for flood-water control, will be made up by new designation of other riverfront land in town, specifically a place on River Road near the swimming hole there. This piece of land, which has been a turnaround parking place, will now be fenced off and allowed to grow up to vegetation of the type valuable in slowing flood waters and controlling erosion. In this way the Town is able to give back what it has taken away. Many wetlands projects are treated in this way.

## Garbage

The Select Board continues to wrestle with the problem of how best to face the challenges of the Transfer Station. Households have received notification of the new dump sticker fees and objections have been coming in at a steady rate, in the form of phone calls to the Town Office and visitors to the board. Many people feel this new system is unfair, especially since some households make more garbage than others. The board has considered a "Pay per Throw" system but worries that this might result in more trash along the roadsides. Meanwhile we are paying \$100 for a sticker, with a second sticker available to the same household for free. In addition, as of July 1 we are paying per item for bulky things. News of this impending change resulted in a lot of spring cleaning in Monterey as people borrowed pickups and dealt with their backlogs of

mattresses, bedsprings, appliances, and other large items. As the barns and sheds emptied, the Transfer Station containers overflowed, and although this was difficult to handle, everyone agreed it was better than seeing the goods piling up along the roadsides (or keeping them at home any longer).

At the June 9 Select Board meeting Town demographics were studied. The board wrestled with categories of garbage, estimates of tonnage, numbers of households with people over 65 or on low incomes for whom Pay per Throw would prove financially too burdensome. The week before, Select Person Jon Sylbert spelled it out like this: "Nothing is fair." One idea would be to pay for the dump from taxes. This is the "progressive" system and the more taxes you pay, the more you are paying for the dump. (This would also necessitate a Proposition 2½ override.) Another would be a "flat tax," which is what we have with the stickers. The third system, "Pay per Throw," would penalize large low-income families. Our current system is a combination of the flat tax and extra fees for bulky items.



Glynis Oliver

## Appointments

The Select Board have been making their way through the long list of Town Officer appointments to boards and other positions in the Town. They got about halfway through the list on May 19 and then finished it up on June 16. Regrets and acceptances have been coming back to them so the list is not settled yet, but it is available for anyone to see at the Town Offices. To name a few appointments at random: I Love Monterey Day Committee: Michele Miller and Amy Goldfarb; Conservation Commission: Richard Andrus, David Dempsey, and Michael Storch; Field Driver: Ken Heath; Historical Commission: Jan Emmons.

## Assessors Resign

Early in the month the Select Board received letters of resignation from Gerry Shapiro and Jim Bracken, of the Board of Assessors, and later in the month the third and newly elected member of the board, Rita Backhaus, also resigned. The Assessors have felt unsupported by the Select Board with regard to the cutting (by half) of the salary of the Assistant Assessor.

(over >)

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Tim Taylor, who has now also resigned. This matter was presented to the voters on the Warrant at the May town meeting. Now the Town is without any Assessors, but what is perhaps even more important are the confusion and hurt feelings that have surrounded this matter. As Select Board member Michele Miller said, upon receiving the resignation letters early in the month, "This is such a sad thing." (A statement from former Assessors Jim Bracken and Gerry Shapiro can be found elsewhere in this paper.)

## Police News

The Select Board met in Executive Session with Police Chief Gareth Backhaus to consider the application of Roger P. Arduini of Southwick, Massachusetts. Mr. Arduini was soon chosen for the job and begins on salary July 1, though he has been working part-time since his appointment June 9.

Police Chief Backhaus reports that he has had several calls about bears, especially on Hupi Rd., and asks townspeople to remember that bears are unwelcome guests. In fact, the police have been told

that if they find a bear who "won't leave," they are to put it down. Mostly, the Police Chief says, the bears do leave whenever he appears, especially if he gives a blast on the siren. People are asked to take in their birdfeeders and do all they can to discourage bears

## Growing Things in Town

Carrie Petrick of Project Native presented her "Berm Proposal 2003" to the Select Board on June 23. This project will provide native perennials and shrubs along the flat ground on the roadside by the berm on Route 23 just west of the village, an area which inspired much controversy, humor, and creativity years ago when the property owners of "Greywold," across the road from the old Nursing Home, erected a tall earth berm on their land to give them privacy from the highway. Many people missed the view they had once enjoyed and proposals came in for a picnic spot, domestic plantings, and fantastic towers for view renewal.

Project Native will oversee a beautification of this area with some labor provided by the Town and some by volunteers. There will be an opportunity for people to work on the project and learn about ox-eyed sunflowers, obedient plants, blue vervain, cranesbill and other floral locals. The total project will cost about \$5500. Select Board member Jon Sylbert asked about potential damage to the plantings from snowplowing, sand,

and salt. Ms. Petrick replied that she is concerned about the salt, which is the reason she did not recommend the planting of any evergreens, which are especially sensitive to salt. She asked if the Town could make this stretch of highway a "reduced salt area." Chair Peter Brown said the board could look into this.

On June 2, Steve and Sally Pullen of Greenhaven Farm presented their proposal for use of the Edith Wilson property. They wish to grow vegetables, flowers, and herbs on one acre of open land at the corner of New Marlborough Road and Main Road. They will use organic methods and crop rotation, including cover crops of alfalfa or clover, to build nutrition in the soil. At the end of a three-year period they will review the plan. Also, if at any time the Town has an urgent need to use the land for something else, they would "move off." Their project will serve the community by using land that would otherwise lie fallow, by improving the soil, and by providing fresh vegetables for the community.

Neighbor Bob Heath was present for the proposal and declared he is "all for it." Town Clerk Barbara Swann suggested the area will need police protection. Select Board member Jon Sylbert proposed installing a scarecrow.

The Pullens' plan was accepted with confidence that Edith Wilson would have approved.

— Bonner McAllester

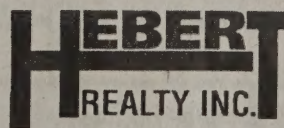
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## 19 McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarships Awarded to Monterey Students

The McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarship Fund has awarded nineteen scholarships totaling \$72,500 to residents of Monterey. Two recent high school graduates were awarded \$3,000 each, and seventeen students currently enrolled in college received renewal scholarships totaling \$66,500.

A committee of Monterey residents, overseen by Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation which houses the Fund, reviewed applications and awarded scholarships based on: academic achievement, community service, the desire to achieve academic and life goals, and financial need.

First-time scholarships for fall enrollment were awarded to:

Aaron Isaac Buchheimer Goldfarb, who will attend Guilford College, Greensboro, NC.

Cody Rosenthal, to attend Colby Sawyer College, New London, NH.

Scholarships for continued studies were awarded to:

Hannah Bracken at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD.

Maggie Clawson at Hampshire College.  
Kimberly Gero at Westfield State College, Westfield, MA.

Lauren Goldfinger at Marist College, Poughkeepsie, NY.

Michele Haapanen at Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA.

Ellen Hamm at Tulane University School of Public Health, New Orleans, LA.

Shanna Hamm at University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA.

Careth Leining at Central Connecticut University, New Britain, CT.

• Oriana Raab at Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY.

Rachel Rodgers at University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA.

Lucy Rosenthal at Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL.

Andrew Shaw at Curry College, Milton, MA.

David Shea at Northeastern University, Boston, MA.

Christina Temenos at Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY.

Jeremy Vallianos at Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA.

Katherine Vallianos at Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA.

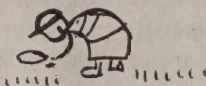
Noah Wright at Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS.

The next deadline for scholarship applications is May 1, 2004. Applications

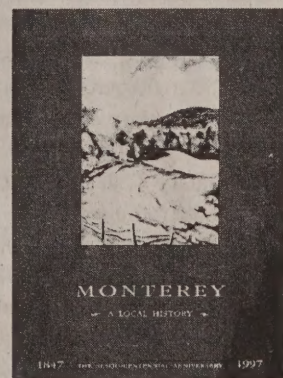
are available online at [www.berkshiretaconic.org/grants-scholarships.html](http://www.berkshiretaconic.org/grants-scholarships.html) or by calling 413-528-8039.

The McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarship Fund was created in 1994 by Edith Wilson in memory of her long-time friend Marjorie McLaughlin. Ms. Wilson, who was a painter, sculptor, and designer, moved to Monterey in 1942. The scholarship was created as a resource for residents of the Town of Monterey, to support the town's young people as they pursue a college education. Graduating seniors and currently enrolled full-time college students are eligible to apply for funding.

In 1995, Edith Wilson said, "Monterey is a spirited village where intelligent children grow. Miss Marjorie McLaughlin and I have enjoyed their progress over the past half-century. It is now my privilege to give the McLaughlin-Wilson Scholarship Fund to aid Monterey's young adults in their future education. Good life and good luck!"



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**Voters Misled: Assessors' Response**

To the Editor:

Coverage of the town meeting in the last issue of *Monterey News* stated that the Assistant Assessor received a "symbolic" reduction in pay. The Board of Assessors does not believe that townspeople were thinking symbolically when they voted on that issue.

In fact most were not thinking at all.

Simply put: you have been grossly misled regarding what an Assistant Assessor does, what his credentials must be, how his employment and functions are determined and supervised, and specifically how satisfactory the performance of Tim Taylor has been during his first year of serving you.

To clarify:

The Board of Assessors, by law, hire and direct their Assistant Assessor.

Tim Taylor was not hired to work 20 hours per week. This myth has been persistently and falsely perpetuated by a small cadre of outspoken personalities who possibly miss the omnipresence of Tim's predecessor (who also was not hired to work 20 hours per week). Tim was hired to work on an annual salary. Yearly it was expected that his duties would require 50 to 60 percent of a full-time position. His salary was based on comparable salaries in other towns and the Monterey Salary Scales that were in place when he was recruited.

Office hours are not the measure of his production but have been included in the Assistant's role by the Board to allow townspeople to consult or seek advice. Recently we added evening hours to allow additional access to the Assistant and elected Board.

Nevertheless, hours visible in the office are merely a small component of the Assistant's role and an even smaller component of the expectations we had when fortuitously hiring Tim in June of 2002.

Harry Gustafson delivered exemplary service to Monterey. He became the embodiment of the title Assessor. You may have been fond of him or not,

but he was a comfortable presence—wasn't he? Always available for a cracker barrel chat. He retired!

We needed to update simply because the town outgrew the old pencil and paper, yardstick and eyeball assessment methods that predated million dollar cottages and soaring land values.

Tim didn't know about the cracker barrel.

He achieved the goals we set. He has retooled the Monterey Assessor's Office. We have much more reliable and accurate information than ever before due to his current knowledge and competency in application of state-of-the-art technology and practices.

Understand that the effectiveness of our work protects you from being overtaxed due to faulty information or unresponsiveness to valid abatement requests. You are also protected from paying more than your share when someone else is undertaxed because their property is undervalued, mismeasured, or overlooked.

An Assistant Assessor is not a secretary or a clerk. They punch no clock. A better comparison may be made to a consulting attorney or an architect. You need what they know. You don't judge their production by the number of hours it takes to complete a task satisfactorily. You don't require that a specific number of hours be served, but not exceeded, in your presence to be sure you get your money's worth. Tim has extraordinary education and credentials. He continues to educate himself through courses and conferences and, in fact, teaches in his profession. An elected board, although

certified by the Commonwealth, cannot reasonably or legally carry out all duties without guidance and timely assistance to satisfy myriad D.O.R. regulations while simultaneously attending to taxpayer concerns and issues.

Assessing is not a hobby.

This was a recertification year. That means all properties were revalued. That process is largely done according to computer-generated formula and analysis coordinated through a large contracted service. Exceptions to recertified values always occur and abatements are requested. We received 144 such requests this year. Each has been conscientiously reviewed and fairly ruled upon—whether you saw Tim in your yard or not. Time required to complete this task was never constrained by any specific number of hours. To the contrary, we doubled our customary meeting schedule to complete our responses as quickly as possible. By law any request not responded to within a limited time is automatically denied. Every one has been reviewed and answered. The job determined time allotted. That is the way professional services are measured.

An issue regarding timely approval of our recertification results by the Commonwealth detained the final setting of the tax rate and distribution of bills, to our chagrin. We had earnestly given assurances that the tax rate would be far more timely than it was. The facts in this matter are that the state bureaucracy did not serve us well or communicate in a timely fashion when questions arose. When it was evident that we were not receiving

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timely responses or approvals we enlisted help from the Select Board to contact D.O.R. officials to expedite our certification. D.O.R. blamed the delay on us. Why not? Who can show otherwise? It might beg the question though: since we were remiss, why were we rushing to prove it by involving the Select Board?

We did all we could to prod the D.O.R., to no avail. Tim did his job as usual. So what really happened here to prompt the railroading of Tim Taylor?

Those of you who took it upon yourselves to gleefully eliminate the position of Assistant Assessor should consider the information you were provided when deciding how to cast your vote.

Did you speak with any elected Assessor to enlighten yourself?

Who did provide information for you to make an informed choice?

Did the Assessors really have "weapons of mass destruction" or were you misled to support another agenda?

Personality conflict, innuendo, and misinformation have left the town without assessment services.

Your use of town meeting to usurp the responsibilities of your Board of Assessors can only be construed as a vote of no confidence that demands our departure as well as Tim's. Even if we were to persist in our positions we would be unable to recruit another qualified Assistant, which would result in violations of regulations, missed deadlines, and flawed decisions. We are, nevertheless, proud of the years of honest and diligent service we have been privileged to give to Monterey. The most manipulated and vocal among our ousters may wish to offer your services as an interim Board. You're needed and it's the least you can do.

— Jim Bracken, Gerry Shapiro

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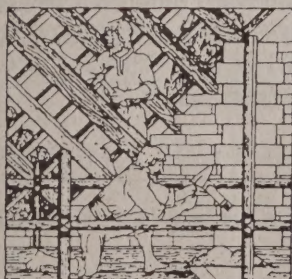
## Bidwell House Museum Welcomes New Directors

Maria Carvainis, President of The Board of Directors of The Bidwell House Museum is pleased to announce the appointment of Brian T. O'Grady as Executive Director and Heather Oakes as Resident Director. Ms. Carvainis commented: "The addition of the position of Resident Director reflects an important decision by the board to restructure the administrative organization of the museum and to develop new programming and fundraising opportunities.

Mr. O'Grady brings over twenty years of experience in museum administration to The Bidwell House Museum. A 1998 fellow at the Getty Museum Management Institute at the University of California, Berkeley, and as a member of the Senior Staff of the Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute until June of 2000, Mr. O'Grady has a strong background in strategic planning, financial management, product development, museum publications, and visitor services. O'Grady is eager to help expand the public profile of the museum and its collections: "The House, and the Hargis and Brush collection of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century American decorative arts are jewels, and my goal is to help spread this news throughout Berkshire County and beyond."

Heather Oakes brings a wide array of skills to her position as Resident Director of the Museum. Coming from an academic background, Ms. Oakes served as Program Coordinator of the Women's Center at Montclair University. She managed all aspects and activities of the center, including program development, public relations, budget management, and staff training. Ms. Oakes's work in community outreach and her background in collaborating with diverse, community-based organizations are extremely important assets that will help the museum expand its public programs and build partnerships with other regional cultural organizations. She sees her role as one of generating enthusiasm and fostering a sense of community pride in The Bidwell House Museum: "The key to long-term success is helping people see the relevance of history to their own lives."

The Bidwell House Museum offers an impressive collection of quality high country furnishings and decorative arts of the eighteenth- and early nineteenth-centuries, housed in an elegant Georgian saltbox built circa 1750 as a parsonage for the Reverend Adonijah Bidwell. The museum is surrounded by 196 acres of fields, woodlands, and period gardens. The museum is open Tuesday-Sunday, 11:00-4:00 p.m., Memorial Day through October 15.



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## Oil Paint, Motor Oil, and Hazardous Waste Collection Schedules

Residents of Monterey and other towns in the South Berkshire Household Hazardous Waste Collaborative can take advantage of the following oil paint and waste motor oil collections this summer:

**Saturday, July 26, 9 a.m.-noon,** Great Barrington Transfer Station, Rt. 7, across from Monument Mtn. High School.

**Saturday, August 16, 9-11 a.m.,** Otis Transfer Station, West Center Road.

**Wednesday, August 20, 4:30-6:30 p.m.,** Lenox: Department of Public Works, 275 Main St./Rt. 7A, across from MassHighway offices.

Acceptable materials are: unwanted oil paint, stains, paint thinners and turpentine as well as used motor oil.

A Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection is planned for on **Saturday, July 19, 9 a.m. to noon**, at the Stockbridge Recycling Center, 1 West Stockbridge Road, Route 102 west (About 1 mile west of Red Lion Inn).

This collection is for safe disposal or product recycling of household hazardous products. The program is free to residents of participating towns. An appointment is required.

Most products that have labels that state 'caution, toxic, poison, flammable' can be brought to the collection and should not be discarded in the trash. Paint thinners and solvents, pesticides, gasoline and drain cleaners are examples of acceptable items. Products that contain mercury, such as fever thermometers and

button batteries, found in watches and hearing aides, are accepted. Rechargeable cell-phone and tool batteries are accepted as well. Alkaline batteries can be disposed of in household trash.

The average American household generates approximately 20 pounds of hazardous waste each year. Proper disposal reduces air and water pollution and helps to protect public health and the environment.

Latex paint will not be collected at any of these events. Dried latex paint can be disposed of with regular trash. Kitty litter or newspaper can be used to absorb the excess liquid until it is dry. Empty or dried up cans of latex paint can be disposed with the regular trash. Empty cans of oil based paint, stains, and solvents can be disposed with the regular trash as well.

Residents who bring their mercury fever thermometers can receive one free non-mercury replacement. A broken fever thermometer can cause health problems when one inhales the mercury vapors, or when the skin is exposed. Mercury can cause environmental and other health problems if it is thrown into the trash. The MA Department of Environmental Protection is providing the digital thermometers (supplies are limited). It is important to package the glass thermometers so they do not break.

Preregistration is required for all collections. To make an appointment, or for information about what can be brought to the collections, go to <http://www.cetonline.org/Events/events.htm#collections>, call CET at 1-800-238-1221 or e-mail [jamiec@cetonline.org](mailto:jamiec@cetonline.org).

## Early Bird Catches LakeFest 2003 Poster

It's 6:00 a.m. and Jean Germain, photographer extraordinaire, steps onto the deck of her lakeside Monterey cottage, her artist's eye exploring the possibilities of this magnificent morning, when, soundlessly, like an apparition through the mist, this year's LakeFest Poster glides into view.

As the fishermen approach, Jean whisks into her house, grabs her never-too-far-away camera, and is back on the deck within seconds. Only three exposures left—Jean knows she has no time to reload, no time for light meters, almost no time to think—in a matter of seconds the fishermen will drift away! "Click, click, click," goes the camera, and the boat vanishes into the mist. (Jean tells us the pros call this a "grab shot.") But for the art and skill of Jean Germain, this idyllic scene would have been lost forever. It all happens so quickly that Jean doesn't realize, until the film is developed, that she has managed to capture a moment of ephemeral beauty, and immortalize it.

Jean modestly takes little credit for this photograph, chalking it up to luck, because, as she says, she had "no time to do anything." Luck? Well, maybe a little, plus her great "eye," her lightning reflexes, her years of experience and, most certainly, her enormous talent

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The list of venues that have exhibited Jean Germain's photographs, including one-woman shows and invitationals, is long. She has won numerous juried show awards. Her work hangs in corporate collections and has also been featured in many publications. In addition, Jean is a frequent lecturer and guest speaker. Her photography is known for

impressionistic images and special effects, and encompasses a wide range of subjects, including nature, landscapes, architecture, social events, the human figure, and the enchanting world of children. Jean is especially well known for her photographs of the many world-famous jazz musicians who have performed in Sarasota, Florida, her winter

home, over the past twenty years. She is a true jazz aficionado; her exuberant body of work featuring these great artists is cool, hot and swingin'—just looking at these pictures can set your toes to tapping.

"Generous Jean" (as we now call her, in recognition of her donation of this photo for the LakeFest 2003 poster) has a deep love for Monterey and the thirty-eight years she has spent here. "It's a way I can give something back to Monterey," she says. Normally, Jean sells the matted and framed photo for \$300! The LGA posters cost a mere \$15, a small price to pay for not having to get up at 6:00 a.m. to enjoy this extraordinarily preserved, priceless moment.

*Posters will be on sale weekends on the porch of the General Store, and through LGA. Proceeds help fund the festivities for LakeFest 2003, Saturday, August 16, rain date August 23.*

— Harriet Harvey & Hy Rosen



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Elizabeth Goodman, Pastor

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528-5850



## New Transfer Station Fees

The following Transfer Station fees are in effect as of July 1, 2003. Please call the Town Offices at 528-1443 with any questions about these charges.

### Sticker Fees

Annual Household Fee – \$100

Businesses – \$150

Commercial Haulers @ \$100 plus verification clients have valid stickers.

### Construction Debris

Wood waste and miscellaneous construction material (wood must be no more than 6 ft. in length); shingles, sheetrock, petals

\$20 – mini pickup

\$45 – Low Boy (8 ft. x 2 ft.) dump

\$25 – 4 ft. x 6 ft. trailer

\$55 – 6 ft. x 10 ft. trailer

\$30 – Regular-size pickup

### Bulky Items

Mattresses and/or box springs – \$20  
Sofas, overstuffed chairs, sleeper sofas – \$20

Other furniture – \$15

Refrigerators, freon free – \$10

Refrigerators, other appliances with freon – \$25

Appliances – \$10

Car tires – \$3

Tractor, heavy truck tires – \$6

All computers, monitors – \$10

All printers, scanners – \$5

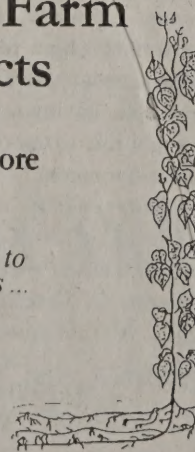
Televisions – \$20

Fluorescent lamps – \$3

## Gould Farm Products at the Roadside Store

*You come to  
our tables ...  
take us  
to yours!*

Call Amy, 528-2633  
Gift baskets available.



## Bidwell House Museum Announces 2003 Programs

The Board of Directors of the Bidwell House Museum is pleased to announce the schedule of Programs for 2003. A variety of events have been scheduled for the summer and fall.

### Native American Culture and Spirit, Sun., July 20, 1–4:30

An afternoon of talks and demonstrations celebrating Native American culture in the Berkshires will begin at 1:00 p.m. with a presentation by David McAllester that will include Native American songs and dances. At 3:00 p.m. Marge Bruchac will tell stories about Rhoda Rhodes, a Native American doctor who lived in the mid-1700s. Throughout the day, Jennifer Lee will provide an exhibit of Native American material culture, including a replica of an wigwam, bark baskets, clothing, and other common objects of eighteenth-century Native American life. The day will conclude at 4:00 p.m. with a walk to the Native American cairn (burial site) on the Bidwell House property. Tours of the museum are scheduled for 2:30 and 4:00 p.m.

### Great Gatsby Gala, Saturday, August 9, 5 to 10 p.m.

An evening fund-raiser for the Bidwell House will be held at Rockridge, overlooking Lake Garfield. The cost is \$135 per person, with dinner and dancing to the Carlin Orchestra. For reservations, call Kathryn Roberts, 528-6188; Bob

Duffy, 528-3007; or the Bidwell House Museum, 528-6888.

### Cookies and Country Crafts, Saturday, August 16, 1–4 p.m.

A family festival will feature demonstrations of a variety of country crafts including wool spinning, basket making, and pottery. In between the activities there will be live music and a good old-fashioned lemonade social.

### Birds of Prey, Sunday, August 31, 1:00–2:30 p.m.

Tom Ricardi, founder of the Massachusetts Bird of Prey Rehabilitation Facility in Conway will offer an educational program and live bird demonstration.

### Fall Harvest Festival, Saturday, September 20, noon–4:00 p.m.

The museum will celebrate the harvest with a cider-pressing demonstration, pumpkin painting, tomato tasting from the museum's Heritage Garden, and other harvest related activities.

### Tea and Talk: Treasures of the Bidwell House, Saturday, October 11

The museum will host a members-only event offering a look at how Jack Hargis and David Brush acquired the museum's superb collection of Early American furniture and decorative arts, as well an explanation of the restoration process undertaken by the two men.

(cont.>)

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Admission fee for each event is \$5.00 per person and \$8.00 for the program and house tour.

The Bidwell House is a restored historic house museum on Art School Road in Monterey, Massachusetts, set in 196 acres of gardens and trails. Built circa 1750, it contains an extensive collection of eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century furnishings, decorative arts and textiles. The museum is open for regular tours Tuesday through Sunday and holidays, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. At other times, the museum may be viewed by appointment. Admission fees for the tours are \$6.00 for adults, \$5.00 for students and seniors; children under 12 are free.

If you would like more information call the Bidwell House 413- 528-6888.

## Storytellers, Book Sale in July at Monterey Library

Two wonderful storytelling events are being sponsored by the Monterey Library in July. Storyteller John Porcino will be performing on Saturday, July 12, at 11:00 a.m. at the library, and Bob Thomas, also a storyteller, will be performing on Saturday, July 19, at 11:00 a.m. at the Monterey Firehouse. Both of these performers have appeared in

## Monterey Meeting House Concert Series

### The Double String Duo in Three Performances

- Jason Kessler and his classical Lowden twelve-string guitar with Rick Eckberg on five-string double base
- Nationally acclaimed performers aired on PBS Video "All American Jazz." Performed and/or recorded with such artists as Chick Corea, Tommy Tune, Teddy Wilson, Garrison Keillor, Rosemary Clooney, and Perry Como
- *All American Jazz \* Renaissance \* Celtic \* Popular*

**Saturdays, 7:00 p.m., July 5, August 2 and August 30**

Price \$10.00 per performance or \$25.00 for all three concerts.

Seating limited – reserve early – Mail to Monterey Meeting House Concert Series/JR, P.O. Box 182, Monterey, MA 01245.

Monterey before and have been warmly received. These events are free and promise to be fun for the whole family.

And don't miss the annual used book sale to benefit the library, on the front lawn, Saturday, July 26, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## Update on New Marlborough School Playground

We are in our final stages of fund raising. To date we have raised \$25,211, thanks to a lot of community support! At this point we are \$1,000 away from a wonderful new playground.

Our Build Day is set for Saturday July 26th. Food donations will be needed to feed hungry workers, so please call Theresa Amstead 528-1853 or Anita Cook 229-2049 if you can send something to fill tummies that day.

Please note that the new playground will not be ready for use until Wednesday, July 30. And please look for a celebration date in the future.

If you would like to send a tax-deductible donation toward that last \$1,000.00, please send it to: Community Playground Fund, PO Box 206 Mill River, MA 01244.

And thank you all once again for helping to make the playground at the school a safer and more enjoyable environment.

— Linda Thorpe

## Introducing the 10-minute Makeover.



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Sun, 8 am – noon



## Landscape

*Reflecting  
mirror images,  
the horizon connects twin halves.*

*reaching out*

*north,  
west.                   east,  
                  south,*

*Majestic, humble,  
Newly born and dying,  
in the same moment.*

*cold light, warm shadows  
embrace.*

*reborn,  
I want to die here.*

*Do I float away to heaven or  
dive*

*into  
          the  
          deep?*

— Liz Steen

## Turnip Flowers

(for BMW)

*some lonely girl in the berkshires  
rain, vase full of bolted golden  
turnip flowers, all tabled, and  
both making their mad dash toward  
satori and reproduction  
while the fractured world turns bitter*

*some spring past a phrase was floating  
          concerning lilacs and latour,  
          the gift and miracle of greens,  
          sore cracked hands, and the balm of love  
          while lines were drawn in the shadows  
          and curses cast on terrors breath*

*they're almost as tall as she is,  
those golden blooms, and her dripping  
in the hilltown rains, lonely still—  
but the bed is broad and fertile  
and from afar seems like a sun,*

*glowing, despite those blind scythemen,  
          whose blades would sever all semblance  
          of sacredness (our deep old vines)—  
          the air will be dripping with lush  
          of lilacs drooping in green rains;  
          some lonely girl will emerge still  
          wet amongst the golden flowers*

— R. Zukowski



## Ode to Oppressed Amphibians

"Forgive them, for they know not what they do ..."

*I dangled your lovely legs, with  
brute disregard.  
Tiny hands clenching your belly  
much too tight  
As if your sole existence,  
derived from the chase.*

*Now grown,  
follies past,  
we meet at the  
hallowed pond.*

*As I reach out,  
seeking a gesture  
of pardon, you stare  
with wary eye,  
flinching in the shadow.  
I step back,  
and the sun dances  
upon your emerald sheen,  
tranquil  
before a leap.*

*We both understand  
being held too tight,  
by what claims  
to love us.*

*From the outer edge-  
your gold eye  
winks, and  
I wave  
an open hand.*

— M. Hamilton

## Ontology

*Once without a time  
before*

*I was becoming*

*Now within a time  
after*

*I have been*

*Where will I be?  
Rats! where am I now?*

— A. O. Howell

## Looking Back in Time

*I'm looking in my car's  
rearview mirror  
to just after the big bang  
the event horizon.  
To see anything  
before that  
I would have to exceed the  
speed of light.  
And that is a moving violation.*

— Elizabeth Caffrey



## Buy Local!—Berkshire Farm Success Stories

There are 6100 farms in Massachusetts, many of them struggling to survive. Although dairy farmers have taken the biggest hits in recent years, small farms in general are typically considered an "endangered species." Here in Berkshire County, though, many small farms have carved out a special niche that allows them not just to exist, but to flourish. Here are portraits of three farms that are succeeding despite the long odds against local farming.

Indian Line Farm in South Egremont is the oldest CSA in the United States. CSA? In case that acronym puzzles you, it stands for Community-Supported Agriculture, originating in Japan in 1965 with a group of women concerned about pesticides in food. The program's Japanese name, "teikei," translates as "food with the farmer's face on it," a lyrical expression for what is essentially a group of consumers buying shares in local farms to support local farmers on an annual basis.

Robyn Van En initiated the CSA movement in America in 1985 when she opened Indian Line Farm as a small apple orchard. Within five years, Indian Line had expanded to a full line of vegetables, feeding its 150 members, who invested in and then reaped the vegetable harvest throughout the season. Indian Line's success inspired others, and by 1999 there were more than 1,000 CSAs throughout America.

So, how does it work? Elizabeth Keen and Alex Thorp, the current owners of Indian Line Farm, grow vegetables and flowers on about one-third of their 17½ acres. The remaining acreage is in cover crops, wetlands, and their homestead. "As a general rule, we have half of our farmable land under cultivation, and the other half under soil improvement," notes Keen. They hope to add acreage to their farm this year, either buying the land outright or renting it following the land's purchase by the Community Land Trust of the Southern Berkshires.

Keen and Thorp are examples of the "accidental farmer," people who come to

farming as second or third careers. Elizabeth spent three years working in the Witness for Peace program in Guatemala, after receiving her degree in Political Science from Colorado College. After graduating from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Civil Engineering, Al spent a few years working in Olympia, Washington, and then ended up on a dairy farm in Norway, "a year well spent," he recalls. He and Elizabeth met when both were interns at the Mahaiwe CSA in Housatonic. When they took over Indian Line Farm in 1997, they had a total of three years farming experience between them.

The one hundred Indian Line member families pick up their weekly share on Tuesdays or Fridays.

"We grow hundreds of varieties of vegetables, herbs and flowers," reports Elizabeth. "Most of the food is picked and waiting for you, but you get to pick some of your own, like strawberries, green beans, and the flowers," says David Carriere, a devoted CSA member.

Each member is asked to work on the farm in some capacity for two hours per season. "It was so much fun to watch the children coming with their parents and experiencing the farm. The children would help pick flowers. Indian Line offers the next generation an understanding of where food really comes from," says Carriere.

Gould Farm, celebrating its ninetieth anniversary this year, was founded as a sanctuary and treatment center for adults with mental illness. Operated on a non-profit basis, it was created as a therapeutic world of sustainable agriculture—a place where people who are disconnected become more in touch by working on the land and with animals to become part of a community. The physical properties of the farm have evolved into a 600-acre facility in Monterey, plus two outpatient facilities in the Boston area.

Although Gould Farm's primary mission is treatment of its "guests," it is also an active working farm that is expanding its operation and products. "It's a diversified farm," says Amy Goldfarb, Director of Operations at Gould Farm, "with a working dairy, pigs, chickens, both for meat and laying." The three-acre vegetable garden produces much of what the residents eat. "Our guests plant the seeds for vegetables, and take care of the animals, so they experience the seed-to-table and birth-to-table cycles. Most people don't get to experience that," says Goldfarb, dryly noting, "A lot of vegetarians are developed here."

In mid-June Gould Farm opened its Harvest Barn, a large structure designed to facilitate production of value-added farm products, such as salsas, breads, salad dressings, and the like. Maple syrup

*BER*

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products were their first commercial effort, and have been quite successful. "Our goal is to make people aware of our mission," says Goldfarb. "Our commitment to sustainable agriculture is our service to our guests, and making money is quite secondary. We absolutely will not undersell our farming neighbors."

The Harvest Barn, part of the main farm area on Gould Road, will have a farm stand, selling excess produce, and the newly created line of Gould Farm edibles, such as pumpkin butter. "We're still in the process of product development," reports Goldfarb. "The products we'll make will be the ones that are good learning tools for our guests. We believe that the process of making the products will be good training."

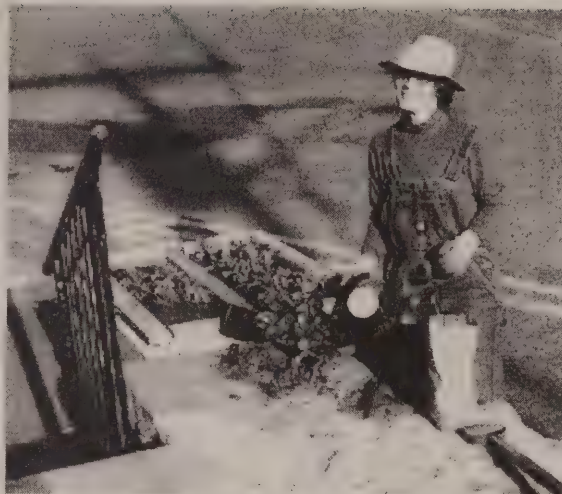
Taft Farms, "on the way to beautiful downtown Housatonic," as owner Dan Tawczynski sometimes describes it, produces vegetables, fruit, wheat, oats, chickens, and more on its 200 acres. "We raise chickens, and grow strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, asparagus, lettuce, beans, carrots, peas, parsnips ... well, just about everything," says Tawczynski. "We experimented with a few flowers a while ago, and now we have 3-4 acres for cut flowers, and it's become a huge part of our operation."

Taft Farms sells its produce and products at its farm stand on Division Street and Rte. 183 in Great Barrington. "We make our own bread, pies, and cookies," says Tawczynski, "and now we have our

own pizzas on Fridays. We make three hot soups every day, and have another six varieties in the cooler at all times."

Frozen sweet corn is one of Taft Farms' newest products, becoming an instant hit with restaurant chefs and caterers. "It's just like the corn you eat in the summer. Last year we sold 4,000 pounds of sweet corn off the cob. I couldn't keep it in stock, so this year we're getting machinery that will let us do 50-100,000 pounds. But now I have to come up with a brand name for it," says Tawczynski.

Tawczynski's daughter Jennifer is completing her studies for a Masters of Wine, and she's asked her father to begin planting grapes. After researching grape varieties that can grow in this climate and consulting with agriculture experts at Cornell, Tawczynski is devoting a half-acre to grapes this summer as a test program. "When I was cleaning out our attic, I found an 1864 yearbook from the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture. There were over 400 entries of grapes at the Great Barrington Fair in 1864! The report said that Berkshire County was an ideal situation for a future wine industry. So, we'll see ...," he muses.



*Sally Pullen planting flowers at church*

Always looking for new products, Tawczynski is now launched in the Christmas wreath business, running a national mail-order business as well as selling locally. Last year the annual Christmas in Stockbridge festival was decorated almost entirely with Taft Farms' wreaths and greens. "We had a dozen people working on the decorations, and we sold so many through our internet site that the Post Office sent a truck every day to pick up our shipments."

Such are the success stories of small Berkshire farmers. Taft Farms may yet become a winery. Gould Farm is launching an expanded product line. And in mid-September, Indian Line Farm will produce a brand new organic farmer when Elizabeth gives birth.

— Laurily Epstein

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## Fauna of the Stuffable Bone

As we get older and wiser we may notice that the world is going to pieces around us in spite of all our best efforts to fix things up. So we may turn our attentions to the home environment, at least for the first half hour or so of the day, when it still seems like we can get a few things right. In my case, I start the day by taking inordinately good care of the dog.

Some of my friends swear by a dog diet of raw food and bones. Their dogs crunch up bones and have excellent teeth as a result. Their dogs have learned to love carrots instead of junk food dog biscuits.

My dog has crooked teeth (and some other crooked bits, too, not her fault) and has a difficult time chomping up bones. So when I got her bones she just licked and nibbled off the meaty bits, and the bones themselves began to build up in the dooryard, unchomped. I kept buying bones, starting my day right by presenting them to the dog, and watching the boneyard grow.

Then one morning, after she'd had her grated carrot, her vita-mineral mix (made by me, according to a special recipe with organic ingredients), her scoop of upscale kibbles, her big joint-support pill made from mussels with green lips and washed down with a bit of soft-style junk food dog biscuit, I looked in the fridge and found I was out of bones.

### **Peter S. Vallianos Attorney at Law 528-0055**

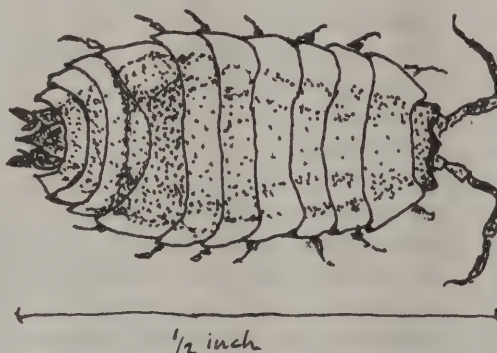
General practice includes real estate purchases, sales, family transfers and transfers in trust, zoning, land use matters, conservation restrictions, landlord-tenant; wills, probate; commercial law.

\*\*\*

I will meet with you at your home in Monterey.

Ruby sat gazing at me trustingly. Every day this unbelievable breakfast routine finishes up with the bone. She knew I would produce one, as always. In a rare flash of genius I slipped out the door and grabbed a spent bone. I slathered a little peanut butter in one end and some highbrow turkey-meat dogfood in the other. The stuffed bone was presented to the confident dog, who trotted to the door to go out and deal with it in the boneyard. She seemed happy and I was into a whole new world of bone-stuffing.

An Isopod from the stuffable Bone - 6/03



Every morning now I hop outside while she is working on the kibbles and select a stuffable bone. I have to look sharp, though, because the grass is getting tall out there (hard to cut grass between the bones) and it has been a damp spring. Many a small invertebrate creature has taken up residence inside the stuffable bones.

At first I would only notice just as I was about to spread the peanut butter and turkey meat. Slugs, some of them quite teeny, would have to be extricated with a toothpick. Little centipedes would make a dash for it across the kitchen counter, presenting a serious wrangling challenge so early in the morning. There would be a few little earthworms, too. Finally I got

hip to the situation and took to gently removing the inhabitants before bringing in the bone. It is nicer for the creatures to be nudged out in the tall damp grass among all the other bones. They never have to suffer the environmental and cultural shock of being airlifted into my kitchen. The truth is, though, I sort of miss having them come in, even so briefly. The ones I miss the most are the isopods.

These are little crustaceans about half an inch long, soft gray in color, with several body sections or segments covered with many similar flattish plates. At the front end there are two sets of antennae, but only one pair is long and noticeable. These antennae project briefly forward and then along the animal's sides in the most attractive symmetrical curve, like a recurved bow or the lips in a lipstick ad or old movie poster.

The name "isopoda" refers to the legs (*poda*) which are pretty much all equal (*iso*) in length.

There are apt to be seven pairs of legs, sticking out to the sides. In fact, the whole creature is "dorso-ventrally flattened," which means it is a bit like a pancake, back to belly. Some isopods can roll up into a ball, a perfect sphere. They do this to protect their soft undersides from attack, also to conserve water. Their breathing apparatus is on the belly and is really a bunch of modified gills which must be kept moist. Most isopods in the world are aquatic, either marine or freshwater, and some of these are parasitic in shrimps. Some are woodborers, called gribbles, and are not even put off by creosote treatment of pilings or wooden boats. They eat their way into the wood and cause great damage to the works of folks.

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The isopods of my stuffable bones, here in East Monterey, are not a bother to anyone. They are scavengers, living on fungi and decaying vegetation, or even leftover molecules of peanut butter and dogfood turkey meat. Their common name is sow bug, or pill bug, or slater and they do not roll up into perfect spherical balls like their cousin the *Armadillidium vulgare*, which is shiny and black. They can only fold a bit in a U-shape, but they have other marvelous attributes including a brood pouch where their babies stay until they emerge looking like smaller versions of the adults.

Some crustacean scientists would say that the most noteworthy aspect of the sow bug is that it is a crustacean that has come ashore and become terrestrial. This is rare in the class Crustacea. In fact most people probably could not think of any other examples. The dorso-ventral flattening and the brood pouch are considered "pre-adaptations" for terrestrial life. For me, the whole concept of "pre-adaptation" is a marvel.

As long as our boneyard stays damp in the morning, I will be starting my day by making life perfect for the dog, also by liberating a few terrestrial isopods before stuffing their bones. I feel good, the dog is fine, and the isopods get on with their pre-adapted business. Am I doing anything about the world going to pieces? Yes, I am. The stuffable bone is the world, the sow bugs are the world, we are the world.

— Bonner J. McAllester

## How Is It Made?

This is definitely going to be more than just an art show.

Picture the Firehouse Pavilion occupied by fine artists and craftspeople displaying their work for sale and also demonstrating how they create their work. They'll answer your questions—at least the ones they can—and they'll show you works in progress, in some cases complete a piece from start to finish on the spot.

The Monterey Cultural Council has accepted applications from artists in a broad range of mediums: from basketry to jewelry to woodblock prints to oil painting, to name just a few. We'll be advertising through the summer and listing names and mediums of the artists.

"How Is It Made?" is organized and sponsored by the Monterey Cultural Council. Please mark the date on your calendar: Saturday, August 30, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and then be sure to attend. There will be food available; there will be live music; there will be Leaf (and other natural objects) Printing on T-shirts for children to spark their creativity and to remember the day by (we are providing white shirts; you may bring others).



## Library Announces Summer Reading Program

READ! THINK! CREATE! @ **your library** is the theme of this year's state-wide Summer Reading Program which will be taking place at the Monterey Library from July 1 through August 9. This program celebrates the world of imagination and creativity that reading can open and encourages children to explore all the ways they can express themselves.

The goal is to keep children reading over the summer as well as to help them discover everything that is available at the library. Teachers know that kids who read for the sheer joy of it are the best readers and families who read together can make reading fun. Children ages four to twelve are encouraged to participate in this program by keeping track of their reading and redeeming their reading logs for **cool prizes**. Independent readers, as well as children who are read to by an adult, are welcome to join.

So come down to the center of town this summer and READ! THINK! CREATE! @ **your library**.

## Garden Tours



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## Observing Solstice High Noon of the Nocturnal Owl

Even though summer solstice is the high point of the solar year, the date June 21 may not have been marked on many social calendars! However in spite of the rain clouds, Eileen Lawlor held an event to celebrate the celestial occasion. The early evening program included Native American spirituality and rituals of primitive Stonehenge, mixed with a liquid measure of frivolity and spirits lifted on high in chilled wine glasses to ring in the summer season.

The Bidwell House Society had also sent out engraved invitations for the same evening, to celebrate solstice and meet the two new members of the staff. The new Executive Director, Brian O'Grady, was previously program director at the Clark Art Institute in Williamstown. And while members were meeting him, the Clark Art Institute was also launching its summer art exhibit of landscapes by the English painter J. M. Turner, best known for mastering glorious images of light. He lived and painted about the same time that Adonijah Bidwell lived in the old parsonage. As the first minister here, Adonijah brought a formal spiritual enlightenment to a wilderness; now, at



George Emmons

summer solstice, an event was held that promised a bright future to preserve his historical legacy and his house.

The Bidwell Meetinghouse Trail nearby, which leads to the site of the first meetinghouse, erected in 1734, but no longer standing, made big environmental news just a week before the gathering. Two timber rattlers were spotted on the trail by Brian Puntin, a resident of 57 Art School Road. While removing a log, he saw what appeared to be two coils of rope or hemp. When he reached down to remove them, serpentine spirals with

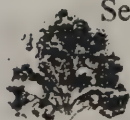
markings began to constrict and undulate. Triangular heads pointed at him as tails began to rattle a warning. Both snakes then decided to retreat down holes under large stones that had been part of a foundation wall. Rattlesnakes are endangered and are protected for that reason. As they generally get out of peoples way, they have coexisted at the site dating back at least to 1926. That year the Daughters of the American Revolution were dedicating a memorial stone at the site of the meetinghouse when the ceremony was cut short by the sound of rattling not far away.

Wildlife sightings enrich our appreciation of our surroundings, and just the week before the rattlesnakes appeared, two moose walked into town. At the crack of dawn, Don Amstead saw a cow and a yearling calf calmly strolling up the side road from Bidwell Park past the Post Office. While crossing Main Street, right here in River City, trouble may have been imminent when a biker came whizzing down the hill past the church. Both moose broke into a trot to get out of the way right past the Town Hall and into Greene Park. Even if they crossed the baseball diamond without touching a single base, as they faded into the morning mist across

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the field of dreams, they should have gotten a standing ovation.

Summer solstice is obviously high noon for night owls. But a great horned owl was seen for a week in broad daylight in the yard of David Ziegler, a resident of Monterey near the intersection of Routes 23 and 57. The owl had banged its head while chasing one of his white Peking ducks under his porch and could not fly. The pupil of one eye appeared to be dilated from the concussion. Owls do not see well anyhow and catch their prey primarily by sound. David called the Environmental Police for advice and they predicted the injured bird would soon regain its equilibrium particularly since it continued to eat the duck it had killed. Sure enough one day it flew off into the shadows of a tree, probably to think things over, but not for long, because the night for hunting was one of the shortest of the year.

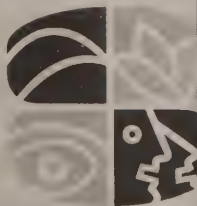
As the sun is recognized as the center of the solar system and the source of all solar light, at solstice we are more aware the days and years of our lives are similarly measured by lines of light and shadow. If zenith is the brightest time of observation, then spring was the dawn of awareness. Autumn will be glorious, but brings the twilight that takes us into the long nights of winter. In observing the ecology with each revolution in space, we become more cognizant that we are truly blessed spiritually by both heaven and earth.

— George Emmons

## Summer art shows!

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## Green Corner Bulletin Clean Water Tip: Car Washing

With the mud from all this rain, you might be thinking that as soon as the sun comes out, it's time to wash your car. There's no problem with washing your car. It's just how and where you do it.

Why not on the paved driveway? Water flows from the pavement into nearby storm drains which empty directly into streams, lakes or rivers. All the soap, dirt, and oil you want off your car ends up in streams or lakes. The soap is likely to contain phosphates and other chemicals. The phosphates promote weed and algae growth, harming the fish and degrading our swimming and boating pleasure. The road dirt and car chemicals aren't good for our water either.

What can you do?

Take your car to a commercial car wash, especially if you plan to clean the engine or the bottom of your car. Most car washes reuse wash water several times before sending it for treatment—that's 60 percent less water in the entire washing process than a simple home wash uses just to rinse off a car.

If you wash your car at home:

- Park on the ground, not on pavement. The ground can filter some of the soap, oil and dirt.
- Use soap sparingly.

## Fish Hatchery Fest Aug. 24

The Berkshire Fish Hatchery will hold its second annual Lobster & Clam Fest on Sunday, August 24, beginning at 2 p.m. on the Hatchery grounds. The menu will include lobster, clams, corn on the cob, salads, rolls, and watermelon. A raw bar will also be available at additional cost. Tickets are \$50.00 each, with the proceeds going to benefit the Hatchery. Last year's Fest was sold out and a marvelous time was had by everyone attending. Only a limited number of tickets are still available and they can be obtained by calling 413-528-9761. We look forward to seeing you at this community event.

- Use a hose nozzle with a trigger to save water.

This information is taken from Massachusetts DEP: "Clean Water Tips: Nonpoint Source Pollution and What You Can Do To Help." For more information contact the Center for Ecological Technology (CET) at 1-800-238-1221 or [www.cetonline.org](http://www.cetonline.org).

— Joy Kirschenbaum,  
Waste Management Specialist, CET



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## Notes from Greenhaven Farm Remembering Dickie

Once upon a time a long time ago when the world was new and so was I, the town of Monterey had its own dog. Dickie was his name. Technically, he was the Amstead's dog, but as I remember it, the scope of his world was broad enough to include the whole town. I say the town of Monterey had a dog named Dickie. One could also say that a dog named Dickie owned the town of Monterey. I recently had a chance to reminisce about this dog and the Monterey of the early 1950s with Bruce Amstead. He and I grew up together, and he remembered Dickie as well as I did.

This dog was a mixed breed with a rather large component of Border collie. He was mostly black with some white on his underside, he stood about eighteen inches high, and he was broad, broad enough to waddle a bit as he walked. He spent much of his time hanging out in the village on the porch of the General Store

or perhaps on the steps of the Tea Room. His coat was often dusty from having lain in the cool earth of a dug-out place he'd found who knows where. His self-appointed job was to greet people who came to town for the usual purposes—going to the store and getting the mail. He would walk up to anyone and everyone wagging his tail and looking for a pat on the head.

In those days dogs were not required to be on a leash or tied up, so our friend Dickie had the freedom to roam, and that is just what he did. He and our dog, a springer spaniel mix named Spotless, were best of friends and traveled about together. They were quite a pair: one black with white, the other white with black. They could be seen all over town and often lounging in our front yard or playing with my sister and me.

But Dickie was not entirely content with lying around or playing with his best friend Spotless. He had a bad case of the wanderlust. To satisfy this he would ride the school bus almost daily. My father drove the bus for several years and had many stories to tell about Dickie-dog, as we affectionately called him. Sometimes he would be waiting on the steps of Center School when school got out. As the children got on the bus, so did he. He would ride as far as his house, then calmly get off with Bruce. Many times, though, he would refuse to disembark at his own house. He would plant his four feet in the aisle and no one could budge him. My dad would simply close the door and proceed on his route. When Dickie was ready to get off, he would waddle down the aisle and wait expectantly at the door.

My father would stop the bus and let him off, sometimes in the middle of nowhere. How we wished we could know where he was headed and what he was up to! He had a mind of his own and it was inscrutable. Did he have other friends to visit? Was he simply exploring? Looking for a handout? We'll never know.

Dickie didn't always board the bus at the school. On more than one occasion my father would see him sitting beside the road somewhere and he would stop the bus for him. Had he been wandering far and wide and grown weary enough to hitch a ride home? How did he know when the bus would be coming? When he did this, he would usually ask to be let off either at his driveway or in the village, sometimes at our house.

During the years when Bruce attended Corashire School at the other end of town, his dog would sometimes wait for the bus in the village, clamber on board, and ride to Corashire School to meet him. Dickie seemed to know what day it was, too. He never looked for the bus on Saturday or Sunday, nor did he during school vacations.

This special dog felt like a part of our family, he was around so much playing with our dog and resting on our porch. We all have fond memories of his endearing antics. One of my favorite memories is of the day he came to church. My father was the minister back then as well as the school bus driver, and one summer Sunday as he was conducting the service with the doors wide open, in walked our dear Dickie, like he owned the place. Down the aisle he came and parked himself with

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*Ray Ward's school bus waiting outside Coradhire School, March 1950*

a sigh in front of the pulpit. I guess he must have stayed for the rest of the service. Who would have had the heart to throw him out?

If I sound a bit nostalgic, who could blame me? Monterey was a wonderful place to grow up and Dickie was certainly part of the wonder. When we heard years later that he had died we mourned him like a dear friend, for that is truly what he was.

— Sally Pullen

## K. Wasiuk to Speak at Historical Society July 25

The Monterey Historical Society invites everyone to a talk by K. Wasiuk on Marge Partridge Whitney, a Bidwell granddaughter raised in Pittsfield who left everything and everyone she knew (except her husband of two weeks) in 1819 to become one of the first missionaries to Hawaii. She spent her life as a

Victorian New England Christian woman on the paradisiacal island of Kauai, much of it as a widow. The talk will be held at 7 p.m. on Friday, July 25 in the General Knox Museum next to the Monterey Library. Refreshments will be served.

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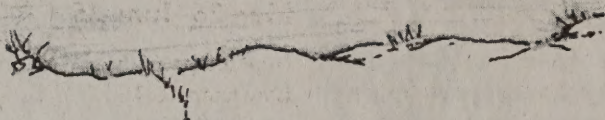
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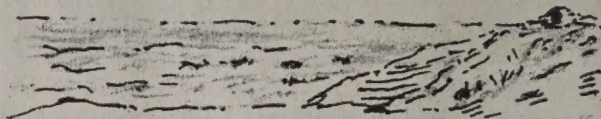


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We are grateful to the following readers for recent contributions to the *Monterey News* in response to our annual fund-raising appeal. You make it possible to continue publishing our community newspaper.

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## Karen Gillis Completes Master's Degree

Karen Gillis, former Monterey resident and daughter of Tom and Kathleen Gillis of 70 Harmon Road, Monterey, completed her master's degree in Veterinary Medical Sciences at the University of Florida in May. For seventeen years, Karen had been employed by UF's College of Veterinary Medicine as a biological scientist, but she has just accepted a position as Associate Biological Safety Officer with UF's Division of Environmental Health and Safety. Karen's responsibilities now include the safe use of infectious agents, recombinant DNA, and human gene therapy at the university.

Phebe & Adam Kyrk  
Barbara & Murray Resnick  
Tom Rosenthal

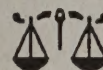
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## Calendar

**Every Monday (except holidays):** Select Board meeting, 8:30 a.m.-12 noon, Town Offices.

**Friday, July 4:** Town Offices closed for Independence Day.

**Thursday, July 10:** Free blood pressure clinic, 2:30-3:30 p.m., Town Hall, administered by Visiting Nurses.

**Saturday, July 12:** Storyteller John Porcino at Monterey Library, 11 a.m.

**Sunday, July 13:**

Dual String Duo, Monterey Meetinghouse concert, 7 p.m., \$10. See p. 10.

Roger The Jester: A Family Show for All Ages, 2:00 p.m., Sandisfield Town Hall. Sponsored by Sandisfield Art Center. Free but donations accepted. Call 258-4953 for more information.

**Saturday, July 19:** Storyteller Bob Thomas, 11 a.m., Monterey Firehouse, sponsored by Monterey Library.

**Sunday, July 20:** "Native American Culture & Spirit," 1-4:30 p.m., Bidwell House, Art School Road. \$5, information 528-6888. See p. 10.

**Friday, July 25:** Talk by K. Wasiuk on a

## Our Lady of the Hills Summer Schedule

Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Chapel on Beartown Mountain Road is open for the summer season (July and August). Masses are every Saturday at 7 p.m.

Bidwell granddaughter who was a missionary to Hawaii, 7 p.m. Knox Museum. Free, sponsored by Monterey Historical Society. See p. 21.

**Saturday, July 26:**

Annual Monterey Library Book Sale, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Library lawn.

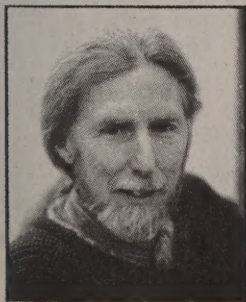
Annual Firemen's Steak Roast, 5-7 p.m., Firehouse Pavilion. \$18. Tickets available from any fireman.

## The Observer May 26-June 25

High temp. (6/25) ..... 88°  
Low temp. (6/3) ..... 42°  
Avg. high temp. .... 67.2°  
Avg. low temp. .... 53.5°  
Avg. temp. .... 60.4°  
Total rainfall ..... 8.0"  
Precipitation occurred on 23 days.

Square and contra dancing, 8:30-11:30 p.m., Sheffield Grange, Rt. 7, Sheffield. Music by Mountain Laurel, calling by Jim Gregory. All dances are taught, beginners and children are welcome. Refreshments at intermission. Adults \$6, children \$3. Information 528-9385.

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Contributions from local artists this month:  
Bonner McAllester, p. 16; Michele Miller, p. 22;  
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